



William Robertson, EITC President

We are here today for an announcement of a signing of a three-year agreement, a training service agreement, between Eastern Idaho Technical College and INL beginning July 1. Through this agreement, some 3,500 INL incumbent employees will be annually participating in a wide array of environmental safety and health-oriented training classes that will be offered here at the college and at the INL itself. Classes will include topics such as radiological control, hazardous waste operations, emergency response – which is more informally known as my favorite word HAZWOPER training – I think that has a nice ring. We will have respirator training, package and transportation, medic first aid and a whole host of other classes that I won't bother you with by naming. It's a big production and there is a great deal of activity that is going to be going on over the next three years. Let me say in conclusion, that we as a college are indeed very pleased to join INL in this important mission emphasizing employee and public safety and we look forward to a long and beneficial relationship with INL over the next several years. So with that, let me reintroduce INL Deputy Lab Director Juan Alvarez.

Juan Alvarez, INL Deputy Lab Director

Thank you for joining us this afternoon. It's very exciting times when we get an opportunity to join the college in such a great opportunity for us to work together in training the work force at the Idaho National Lab. You know what, I am somewhat personally invested in the college because my son attends this college, so I was very excited when this thing actually got put together and we had an opportunity to make it happen. From the get go, when we walked in here, as Battelle Energy Alliance, at the core of what we are, who we are, is education. And when you look at our nuclear renaissance into the future, you're really looking at the opportunity to develop the work force. To do some critical work that is needed, to be able to do the renaissance in nuclear energy that we are really looking for. This is a start, to get the college involved in training our own work force in our environmental safety and health needs, so we are very excited about that opportunity.

We look to more future opportunities with the college and like we were just talking, there are a lot of growing needs in the nuclear business that's going to require colleges like EITC to team up with organizations like the INL to make this happen. This is all part of the vision that I think the Department of Energy had for this laboratory and we are working, taking steps to get us there. Thank you for coming out this afternoon and supporting it.

